



The newly relocated Centro Medico in San Nicolas offers more than just sundries and prescriptions!

Friday evening of last week was an important moment for Richard Visser of Visser Trading. The relocation of the Centro Medico to Bernhardstraat, in what was the restaurant Denny's Delight is a great source of pride for him. In his brief address to the gathering of friends and family Richard spoke of his long-time ties to the San Nicolas Community when thirty-eight years ago his father began the family business with the opening of Botica San Lucas. Since then the family has added three other pharmacies to the chain in Aruba, and one more in Curacao in 1974. The other boticas in the chain are the Kibrahacha and Oduber in Oranjestad, and Botica San Lucas, still in San Nicolas. With time, the pharmacies have grown into something much more than simply a place to get a prescription filled, and Richard Visser is very proud of that.

The new Centro Medico is a great example of the concept, offering a particularly pleasant ambiance thanks to the interior design of another Visser brother, Eddie. Though presently living in California, he made the trip to be with his family for the opening. Also on hand was Kim Thilleman, the resident pharmacist on duty at Centro Medico and Herman Verhoef, head pharmacist for Botica Oduber, who has been with the Visser family for over twenty years. A number of doctors and members of the community joined in this special moment. Richard and Eddie are particularly proud of this new facility as it is larger and more diversified, and offers personal grooming items and cosmetics of every description. As with all Visser Boticas, it is also home to a complete wellness center.

Richard Visser explained that they are not only concerned with providing remedies, but their larger concern is good health and prevention. To that end, the Visser chain of Boticas maintains Dr. Warren Josiah, a graduate of the Universit   Serafin Ruiz de la Sarot   Villa Clara of Cuba. His job is to travel a circuit between the four pharmacies five days a week, giving preliminary exams to customers, listening to their complaints and symptoms, and offering every Tuesday and Wednesday workshops in weight reduction and nutrition at the Botica Kibrahacha. Dr. Josiah can be found every Monday at the new Centro Medico, Thursdays at Botica San Lucas, and on Fridays at Botica Oduber. He specialized in family medicine and will give a basic examination, listen to one's symptoms and make recommendations. He is not there to displace the house doctors, just to alleviate the overload, give wellness advice, and assist in the prevention of health problems. This can save valuable time spent waiting at doctor's offices when the complaint may be very slight. It is all part of the complete program that Dr. Richard Visser feels should be the foundation of the role that a pharmacy takes in the community, making it a *health* center, not just a place to go to when one is sick.

Friday's festive opening was well attended by those curious about the new facility. They enjoyed delicious snacks from Rumba restaurant and the music of Delbert Bernabella on the sax, all to congratulate the Visser brothers on providing a new health center for San Nicolas and the surrounding area.